

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 2270 without my signature.

This bill would require the Department of Water Resources (DWR) to establish statewide water recycling targets every five years and would also enable local governments to control salinity input to their sewer systems, including those from water softeners.

Increasing the use of recycled water in the state is an absolutely necessary activity to increase water supply reliability for the future of our growing state. Unfortunately, this bill also includes provisions that go too far in limiting residential use of water softeners.

I recognize that excess salinity in surface and ground water is a serious water quality problem in various regions throughout the state, including the Central Valley and southern California. However, current law already includes provisions that allow local agencies to regulate water softeners. The provisions of this bill create a system that could unduly limit choices for consumers and small water systems, with potentially little positive impact given the relatively limited contribution of water softeners to our salinity problems.

For these reasons, I am returning this bill without my signature.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger